

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 253492

21/41

ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY:EB/ORF/FSEL:DSWILSON:MW

APPROVED BY:EB-THOMAS O. ENDERS

EB/ORF/FSE:RRMARIN(DRAFT)

S/S-MR. ORTIZ

EUR/WE:HMOEN

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P 241642Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 253492

STADIS //////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 2 LINE 8 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT:ITALIAN INTEREST IN BEVHTEL SAUDI PIPELINE PROJECT

REF: STATE 232139; KUWAIT 4172

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

1. PLEASE PASS TO MFA MINISTER MIGLIUOLO THE FOLLOWING
INFORMATION REGARDING MY CONTACTS WITH BECHTEL ON THE
ABOVE SUBJECT:

2. BEGIN TEXT. DURING FOREIGN MINISTER RUMOR'S BILATERAL
WITH THE SECRETARY AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, RUMOR RE-
QUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN ITALY'S EFFORTS TO OBTAIN A
\$1 BILLION SUBCONTRACT TO SUPPLY STEEL PIPE FOR A MAJOR
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SAUDI PIPELINE-REFINERY-PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX BEING PUT

TOGETHER BY BECHTEL AND MOBIL. SECRETARY GENERAL MANZINI
ALSO RAISED THE SUBJECT IN A SEPTEMBER4 MEETING WITH ME.
UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON. I HAVE CONTACTED BECHTEL'S

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS IN SAN FRANCISCO AND THEIR REGIONAL
MIDDLE EAST OFFICE TO INQUIRE HOW YOU MIGHT BEST PROCEED
TO DEVELOP YOUR PROPOSAL. BECHTEL INFORMS ME IT HAS NOT
YET BEEN AWARDED THE PROJECT AND THAT CONSEQUENTLY DIS-
CUSSIONS WITH POTENTIAL SUBCONTRACTORS WOULD BE PREMATURE

AT THIS POINT. THEY ARE PLEASED, HOWEVER, TO LEARN OF
THE ITALIAN INTEREST. I WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED AS I HEAR
FURTHER FROM BECHTEL. KIND REGARDS, TOM ENDERS.
END TEXT. INGERSOLL

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